



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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**BOSTON MAN PLEADS**  
**GUILTY TO CRACK CHARGE**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire Tom Colantuono and Concord Police Chief Jerome Madden announced today that Dervon Benedict, age 25, formerly of Boston, Massachusetts, pled guilty today in United States District Court in Concord, New Hampshire to an indictment charging him with Possession of Five or More Grams of Cocaine Base (“crack”) with the Intent to Distribute.

Judge Joseph DiClerico ordered a sentencing hearing to be held on June 28, 2006. Benedict faces a minimum mandatory sentence of 5 years and a maximum sentence of 40 years, as well as a \$2,000,000 fine and at least 4 years of supervised release following his prison term. The plea agreement filed in the case provides that the defendant serve 8 years in federal prison.

Dervon Benedict was arrested on February 17, 2005, by investigators from the Concord Police Department, with the assistance of the Drug Enforcement Administration. His car was stopped in Allenstown as he attempted to deliver crack cocaine he had transported from Boston for distribution in the Concord area.

After the arrest, Concord detectives discovered 78 bags of crack cocaine ready for sale, weighing a total of approximately an ounce, hidden in the defendant’s pants. The defendant reportedly told the investigators: “I knew this day was coming sooner or later.” Benedict has been detained since his arrest.

In commenting on the guilty plea, the United States Attorney Tom Colantuono stated: “Helping local law enforcement rid the streets of crack dealers is a high priority for this office. If you sell crack in New Hampshire, you will be caught and you will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.”

The case was investigated by the Concord Police Drug Unit, with the assistance of the New Hampshire State Police Forensic Laboratory, the Merrimack County Attorney’s Office and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Clyde R. W. Garrigan.

